

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JASPER, INDIANA
MAY 20, 2009**

A meeting of the Common Council of the City of Jasper, Indiana, was held on Wednesday, May 20, 2009, in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 610 Main Street, Jasper, Indiana.

Call to Order. Presiding Officer Mayor William J. Schmitt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call.

Mayor William J. Schmitt	Present
Council members:	
John Schroeder	Present
David Prechtel	Present
Thomas Schmidt	Present
Ambrose 'Butch' Schitter	Present
Kevin Manley	Present
Randall Buchta	Present
Raymond Howard	Present
City Attorney Sandra Hemmerlein	Present
Clerk-Treasurer Juanita S. Boehm	Present

Clerk-Treasurer Juanita Boehm announced that in order to have a quorum for the meeting, a majority of the council members must be in attendance. All seven council members were in attendance; therefore, there was a quorum for the meeting.

Pledge: Mayor Schmitt invited all those present to join him in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Minutes:

The following minutes were distributed to and examined by the Council:

1. April 22, 2009 regular Common Council meeting

A **motion** was made by Council member Ambrose 'Butch' Schitter and seconded by Council member David Prechtel to approve the minutes as published. Motion carried 7-0.

Utility Service Board. General Manager of Utilities Gerald 'Bud' Hauersperger gave a report on the regular monthly Utility Service Board meeting held on Monday, May 18, 2009. Copies of the minutes are supplied to each council member.

**ORDINANCE No. 2009-16 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 4 (2) OF
ORDINANCE NO. 546. ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR A UNIFORM
CODE FOR TRAFFIC UPON THE PUBLIC STREETS OF THE CITY OF JASPER,
INDIANA – PARKING PROHIBITED ON CERTAIN DESIGNATED STREETS**

This ordinance prohibits parking on the south side of 1st Avenue east from Truman Road a distance of 415 feet. The amendment was requested by Jasper Rubber Products and recommended by the Board of Public Works and Safety.

A motion was made by Council member Thomas Schmidt, seconded by Council member Ambrose 'Butch' Schitter and approved 7-0 to read the ordinance for one reading only. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member Randy Buchta, seconded by Council member Ray Howard and approved 7-0 to have the ordinance ready by title only. The ordinance was so read. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member John Schroeder and seconded by Council member Dave Prechtel to pass and adopt Ordinance No. 2009-16. Motion carried 7-0.

Request for special meeting. Mayor Schmitt said he wanted to schedule a joint meeting between the Jasper City Council and the Jasper Park Board on Tuesday, June 9, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. All Council members agreed to attend with the exception of Randy Buchta who will be out of town.

Storm Sewer Problems. Mayor Schmitt said he asked Street Commissioner Raymond Eckerle to present the storm sewer problems in the City.

Eckerle stated about nine months ago the Council requested that a list of the top ten projects that needed attention be compiled which was then done by City Engineer Chad Hurm. Eckerle then pointed out that a City of Jasper map divided into four quarters was displayed on the east wall. He said the colored dots indicate known storm sewer problems in various stages. He also said the areas were inspected with the camera because of known problems or we were getting ready to pave so we sent a camera in to inspect the pipe before we paved on top of it. The yellow represents approximately seventy-five sections of pipe totaling 17,135 feet. The pipe size ranges from 12 inches to 48 or 60 inches. There are some problems indicated on the map that are twenty years old. The one hundred and forty-one green dots represent locations that have an inlet or some type of concern that is not necessarily a whole run of pipe but just problem areas in the pipe. Eckerle then displayed some pictures of problem pipe that were taken with the camera. No one knows how long these pipes will last because it depends upon variables such as the amount of rain and the amount of heavy equipment that travels over the pipe. He said we keep coming up with the same storm sewer issues every time we try to pave and we are not making any headways.

Eckerle then said he and the assistant street commissioner discussed some options and they think a full storm sewer inspection of the entire city needs to be done and analyzed so we know what we are up against. An engineer needs to design or to take that information, prioritize the projects and put a cost to it. To fix all the bad infrastructure if the City wants them repaired, Eckerle said he does not see any other way other than to bid out the projects with a contractor. What we are looking at today could cost three million plus dollars.

Mayor Schmitt said what I see this leading to is a rate study being done on our storm water user fee to determine what the fee should be to get all of this work done. Schmitt also said there is the possibility that the City may need to look at doing a bond issue to get all this work done and then use the storm water receipts to pay off the bond but a lot of study needs to be done before that decision can be made. Schmitt said he asked Eckerle to bring this issue before the Council tonight so everyone has time to ponder this information before the 2010 budget work session. It was not intended to solve this problem tonight.

JCAC. Jasper Community Arts Commission member Norma Kreilein attended the meeting on behalf of the Board.

Comprehensive Plan update. Council member David Prechtel stated that the Comprehensive Plan agreement is ready to be signed. They will set a date in June for a meeting with the steering committee. Mayor Schmitt said to contact the news media so they could cover the meeting because there is a lot of public interest for updating the Plan.

Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the Board, a **motion** was made by Council member Thomas Schmidt and seconded by Council member Randy Buchta to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 7-0 and the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

The minutes were hereby approved _____ with X without corrections or clarification this 17th day of June, 2009.

Mayor William J. Schmitt
Presiding Officer

Attest:

Juanita S. Boehm, Clerk-Treasurer

Margaret A. Kress, Recording Secretary